

Elders that Rule Well

1 Tim 5:17-20

Elder: Bishop, overseer

Elder & Bishop often same person

Elder-what does

Bishop-position

Rule: Preside over, administrate, lead, guide, be in charge of , superintend, *to stand at the head*

Well: do excellent job

Honor: place high value on; deference, reverence, because of rank or state of office.

Double : show respect, dignify office. Take care of needs.

1. Double that of widows
2. Double that of others
3. Respect
4. Pay
5. Double that of bonified widows
6. Honor as brethren plus honor as position.

Moses—Exodus 33:8

People on isle of Melita—Paul & Luke Acts 28:10

Regarding Epaphrodites. Philippians 2:29

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

Esteem: deem, consider

Very highly: over and above, more than necessary, superadded

In love: agape—total-giving, sacrificial love. whole-hearted;

For their work's sake: Because of position, work, office.

Especially: chiefly, most of all, above all

2 types of elder:

1. Administrative
2. Teaching

God's ideal: both.

Very special--much time and effort to Word and Doctrine.

Labour: grow weary, exhausted; toil to point of fatigue and weariness.

Work hard at it. .

My main time give to Word and prayer.

Why?

1. Build right habits from start
2. Not interested in changing philosophy mid-stream
3. Josh 1:8
4. This passage
5. WBC built on Word and Doctrine,

Hard way to build a ministry.

1. Administrative type things.
2. Misunderstanding of God's people.
 - a. Pastor must be at church office all time.
 - b. Pastor always able to talk on phone--accessible.

Worthy: valuable, befitting, merits

Reward: wages, hire, pay, salary

1 Timothy 5:18

Deut 25.

Cruel owners—muzzle oxen.

Let physical needs of oxen be taken care of by grain

NT: Let the physical needs of ruling elders/pastoral staff be taken care of by people

OT: people bring food and material items to temple

17...And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

Jesus to disciples

Lk 10:7; Mt 10:8-14 Don't take certain things with you

People provide for you.

If they don't ...won't hear the message

Matthew 10:14 ... *shake off the dust of your feet.*

Matthew 10:15 ... *more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.*

1 Timothy 5:19

Accusation: criminal charge; formal accusation

Receive: to accept, admit, delight in, buy into.

Witnesses: declare to be true what seen or heard...knows factually.

Document; verify; validate.

Dt 19:15

Not quick to make judgment on a man or ministry without proper documentation.

First response: *I don't believe it*
Where proof?
Ask questions.
Have you talked with the accused?

Two extremes when hear rumor:

1. Promote
2. Demote

Biblical response: Do neither

1. Check out facts
2. Wait
3. Shut mouth
4. Cover

Proverbs 17:9

Repeateth a matter: uncovering forgotten quarrels.

They love to open the graves of old disputes and crimes, bring up their ghostly skeletons, and endeavor to put new life in them.

Thomas: *Discord is their music.*

Prov 16:28 *A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.*

Type of person--feeds on, is impassioned by, mistakes of others.

One of greatest blessings to ministry: disciplined tongue

One of greatest curses to ministry: undisciplined tongue.

5. Confront

1 Timothy 5:20

Referring to elders and those in spiritual leadership.

Because of public position—offense is public, therefore, receive public rebuke!

Rebuke: To confront strongly so as to bring him to a place of conviction, repentance, and confession.

James 3:1

Masters: Spiritual leadership.

Condemnation: judgment, decision as in court of law.

that others also may fear. So that others may take a warning...

So what?

How treat elders.

1. Double honor—them that rule well
2. Support—not muzzle ox
3. Without accusation—against elder receive not
4. Accountability—them that sin....

How respond to accusation?

1. Check out facts
2. Wait
3. Shut mouth
4. Cover ... if true, then
5. Confront publicly